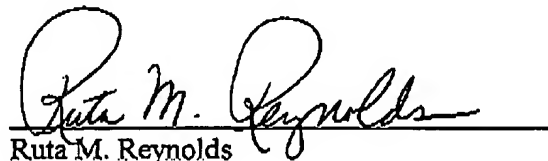


**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

DEC 04 2006

**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION  
UNDER 37 CFR §1.8**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted on the date indicated below via facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile number (571)-273-8300.

Date: 12/4/06  
Ruta M. Reynolds

In Re Application Of:

James L. Chappuis

Art Unit: 3733

Confirmation No.: 3417

Serial No.: 10/725,683

Docket No. 050313-1130

Filed: December 2, 2003

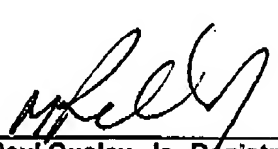
For: Flexible Tap Apparatus and Method of use

**The following documents are submitted:**

- (1) Amendment and Response to Final Office Action; and**
- (2) Amendment Transmittal Letter.**

**TOTAL PAGES (including cover sheet) 21 pages**

DEC 04 2006

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER (SMALL)</b>				Docket No. <b>050313-1130</b>	
Applicant(s): <b>James L. Chappuis</b>					
Serial No. <b>10/725,683</b>	Filing Date <b>December 2, 2003</b>	Examiner <b>Ramana, Anuradha</b>	Confirmation No. <b>3417</b>	Group Art Unit <b>3733</b>	
Invention: <b>Flexible Tap Apparatus and Method of Use</b>					
<b>Commissioner for Patents</b> <b>Mail Stop - AF</b> <b>P.O. Box 1450</b> <b>Alexandria VA 22313-1450</b>					
Transmitted herewith is Amendment and Response to Final Office Action in the above-identified application.					
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below					
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>					
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST # PREV. PAID FOR	NUMBER EXTRA CLAIMS PRESENT	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
<b>TOTAL CLAIMS</b>	<b>13 -</b>	<b>13 =</b>		<b>X \$50.00</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>INDEP. CLAIMS</b>	<b>3 -</b>	<b>3 =</b>		<b>X \$200.00</b>	<b>\$</b>
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>				<b>\$360.00</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>EXTENSION FEE</b>	<b>1<sup>ST</sup> MONTH <input type="checkbox"/></b> <b>\$120.00</b>	<b>2<sup>ND</sup> MONTH <input type="checkbox"/></b> <b>\$450.00</b>	<b>3<sup>RD</sup> MONTH <input type="checkbox"/></b> <b>\$1,020.00</b>	<b>4<sup>TH</sup> MONTH <input type="checkbox"/></b> <b>\$1,590.00</b>	<b>\$</b>
Other Fees:					<b>\$</b>
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT</b>					<b>\$</b>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required. <input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of _____. A duplicate copy of this page is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of _____ to cover the filing fee is enclosed. <input type="checkbox"/> A Credit Card Payment Form PTO-2038 is attached in the amount of \$ _____. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies of the above fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0778.					
 M. Paul Qualey, Jr., Registration No. 43,024			04 December 2006 Date		

Serial No.: 10/725,683  
Art Unit: 3733

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Application of:

James L. Chappuis

Confirmation No.: 3417

**RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

DEC 04 2006

Serial No.: 10/725,683

Group Art Unit: 3733

Filed: December 2, 2003

Examiner: Ramana, Anuradha

Docket No.: 050313-1130

For: **FLEXIBLE TAP APPARATUS AND METHOD OF USE**

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop - AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

The final Office Action mailed October 3, 2006 (Part of Paper No./Mail Date 20060927) has been carefully considered. In response thereto, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

**AUTHORIZATION TO DEBIT ACCOUNT**

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to deposit account no. 20-0778.